

of such teachings, it is nowhere indicated how the elements described by Scholl correspond to those set forth in the claim. Further, as noted above, it appears that such a broad application is contrary to the conclusion reached by the United States Patent Office in its role as the International Preliminary Examination Authority with respect to the corresponding international application.

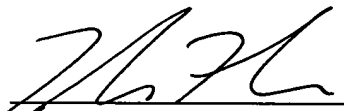
For all the foregoing reasons, the present claims are patentable over the cited art of record. If there are any deficiencies of fees, please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: 1/8, 1999

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA. 90025-1026
(408) 720-8598



Tarek N. Fahmi
Reg. No.: 41,402